

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2680

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 1887

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SEC VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

REFS: SANTIAGO 1848, 1877 AND 1878

1. FURTHER TO SANTIAGO 1848, CHILEAN PRESS MARCH 30 NOTED THAT SECRETARY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA HAD BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL LATER IN APRIL, AND WASHINGTON AP STORY PRINTED MARCH 31 QUOTES DIPLOMATIC SOURCES AS SAYING THAT BECAUSE OF PRESSURE OF TIME "SOME PACIFIC COUNTRY" (SINGULAR) MIGHT BE EXCLUDED FROM HIS TRIP, WHICH WOULD LAST SEVEN DAYS. MEANWHILE, OVER THE WEEKEND, WE HAVE RECEIVED MESSAGES INDICATING STAND-DOWN RE COMMUNICATIONS AND PROTECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

2. I STILL STRONGLY HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY WILL INCLUDE CHILE IN HIS ITINERARY. BUT IF IT HAS TO BE OMITTED, I HOPE WE MAY RECEIVE AT EARLIEST CONVENIENCE A LETTER FROM HIM TO FONMIN CARVAJAL EXPLAINING THE CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING THE CHANGE, AND ASSURING FONMIN, TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, THAT SECRETARY WILL HAVE A GOOD TALK WITH HIM AT OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WILL SEEK TO RESCHEDULE TRIP TO CHILE AT A LATER DATE. SUCH A LETTER, PERHAPS FOR PUBLICATION, COULD REDUCE BRUISED FEELINGS AND AWKWARDNESS HERE.

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